



'Aspire to Inspire before you Expire' - Ronny Sekwela

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Scouting About Tzaneen #5

Kwara's Comments

Greetings all, well we are over half way through the year, amazing isn't it how quickly time is flying by.

We have many things on the go in this issue so I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and keep those contributions coming.

As some of you may know there is a new project with Scouts called Project REV IT! This is a review of how scouting is performing on a national basis and what changes need to be made to the program to make it more relevant for children and youth to join. They/were want to hear your ideas.

What would you like to see done differently? What would you like to see changed? Are you happy with Scouts the way it is or would you like to see something different? Please discuss this with your Court of Honor and give us your feedback via your Field Officer so we can submit this to National Headquarters. Be apart of the solutions guys, here is our chance to be heard!

As all of you should know Mr Mandela is the Patron for Scouts South Africa. On his birthday 18th July we have been asked to spend

67 minutes serving, volunteering or helping others. What did you do to celebrate Madiba's birthday. How did you help build South Africa? Send in your stories so we can inspire each other to greatness



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Living a Life that Matters! - Harry Malatji 1st Nghonyama Rover Crew

Being a Scout is truly a fortunate gift from Godwere by your ready to submit to a mans good will.....! As a scout I regard all life as challenging steps and foundation for being a strong social and emotional young man.

Having the background and back bone of Scouting I have learnt how to face life's challenges that I have come across as a young Scout. I have learnt to have peace, love and care to my siblings at home, friends outside of Scouts and every human being.

Being a Scout for me was not all about fun and joy.....it was and it is a gift from God that you are to grab and let it direct you all the way into your life.

For me I regard Scouting as a Youth GPS where by we are instructed the good and relevant direction towards a good and relevant life.

Just imagine a journey without instruction....for me Scouting is like a GPS with signs and symbols of life. Being a Scout is not all about learning life skills and hand skills, it's a mother to the Scout children were by its fed us with information to help us

shape our destiny and adopt a good way of living.

I also want to commend all our Troop Scouter's in their role towards us, you are truly magnificent where by you are making sure that we as your children have a healthy state of mind, socially and emotionally. Also for being there for us always when we consult you and you always respond fully and positively.

Scouting in my life has been the key to success.

Scouts is your GPS USE IT!



Special points of interest:

- Project REV IT! What is it and why is it important?
- Ronny's adventure to India
- Climate Change and Alien plants—why is it so important?



From Lephephane South Africa to Delhi India - Ronny Sekwela - 1st Marula Rover Crew

We all arrived excitedly at Ghandi International from all parts of the world, we then took a two hour flight to Delhi where we were welcomed by the smell of Delhi International, everyone of us from that flight were sneezing except those Indians who stayed in Delhi of course.



New Dehli

We then travelled to a hotel thinking everything was gonna be okay but the hotel smelled worse than the airport, we got used to it anyway as it was the only place where the 300 Action Partners and staff could be accommodated.

The welcome ceremony was arranged at Jawaharlal Nehru's home 'The first Prime Minister of India'. The evening was glorious. I have never seen such a glorious setting in my life but it was more than just the setting which made the evening so glorious. As Indian dancers twirled and musicians drummed and magicians performed their tricks including the INDIAN ROPE TRICK!

There were different speakers in the welcome ceremony, the natural role model, whose words are still in my ear drums, was Irene Banda the current OIYP Advocacy and Campaign Coordinator and Action Partner from 2005-2007. She spoke of her personal journey through OIYP. Her words like: 'Step-by-step we can change the world' encouraged us all. She also shared with us the BRC

- Be the change you want to see!
- Responsibility over rights!
- Courage of convictions!

'To this generation of Action Partners,

may you carry the BRC with you always!'

When the actual workshop started the sessions included: Peace Conflict and non Violence; Drugs and Alcohol, Racism, Climate Change, Resilient Livelihoods, Discrimination and Communication which was incredibly interesting.

After the sessions we had fun socializing and partying. Thanks to the responsibility of Scouting that has been planted in me because I didn't end up doing the stupid things that I have seen other Action Partners doing when we went partying. Scouts kept me strong.

After sessions we also had outings arranged by Oxfam I also went out on my own to see India, I even to a tuk tuk ride to town.



A Tuk Tuk

Community visits were arranged by Oxfam, I visited Aadi which is a home for disabled people and I also went out to different villages in Delhi where we saw how poverty is affecting people in India especially young disabled kids who have to suffer the effect of poverty and illiteracy as Hindi is the only language they are able to speak "SHAME".

I didn't know I could dance until the day of the closing ceremony where I joined a group of people from Africa (RSA, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Congo) and the eight of us danced to Saraphina representing Africa.

I have learned a lot and am encouraging young people who are reading this article to apply for OIYP 2014-2017. Its

an interesting program that I feel is worth it for young people to participate in.

To all the young people reading this article my message to you is 'No matter who you are, where ever you come from, despite your family background, anything is possible'. There are a lot of opportunities waiting for you out there.

I would also like to encourage all young Scouts out there to start applying for your passports because you will never know when your International opportunity may arise - BE PREPARED.

Also I would like to encourage young Scouts and Rovers as well to apply for the Oxfam International Youth Partnerships in 2013 to experience the international benefits and start acting towards changing the world.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank people who made it possible for me to attend this event

1. Kwara & Akela Zabe - thank you for having the faith in me.
2. Andrew & Sheila Tanner
3. Limpopo Provincial Government in particular Premier Cassle Mathale
4. The Greater Tzaneen Municipality
5. Dr Middleton - for making sure that I came back to RSA healthy
6. Brian and Elaine Kirkman
7. Alison Solomon and Friends

To everyone who supported me spiritually with prayers and all fellow Scouts and Scouter's who have been there for me and with me through out my preparation for India. 'Without all of you guys this wouldn't have come to action, this was all possible because of you guys, not forgetting my Lord God

Almighty for being with me and for making sure that I got selected as an Action Partner.'



Personal Development and Scouts - Ntsako Ngobeni 1st Sasekani Scout Troop

Since I joined Scouts my life has changed a lot and I have learnt a lot of things in Scouts including personal development. I have also earned interest badges which I didn't get for free but I have had to work very hard to get them. Interest badges like Food For Life - starter, First Aid, Fires and Cooking and now I have started my Food For Life - Silver which has interested my two twin little brothers and my cousin (Nhlanhla and Nhlanhla Ngobeni and Given Chabalala) and now they have joined Scouts.

In the interest badge I'm working on (Food For Life) there are a lot of challenges you will face, like making a com-

post heap, trench bed, earthworm farm and liquid manure teas but once you tell your self that it is difficult get going and also what you have to do is to 'Smile and Whistle under all difficulties' then you will be able to achieve lots of things.

It happens many times that when you want to join Scouts your parents do not accept you to be a Scout but if you can get advice from your Scouter you will succeed. If your parents still don't understand ask your Scouter to visit your parents and help them understand Scouts.



Ntsako is the Troop Leader for 1st Sasekani and also a member of Marula Rover Crew.



Nozizwe Mabuza - 1st Shiluvane Scout Troop

Hi I'm Nozizwe, I go to 1st Shiluvane Scouts. I really love Scouting a lot and we do very cool stuff like camping, games, first aid and other life related stuff. Scouting has brought positive changes in my life. Scouts is a place where we are all equal and I feel very comfortable there because we are all the same, in the same uniform, there is no showing off of what we have to each other. Scouts made me develop a positive attitude towards success and also gave me direction. Scouts has also made me develop self respect and to speak out when necessary. I was a very

timid person but I'm no longer a timid person because of scouts. We hold discussions as a group or troop and exchange ideas and we also go camping where we meet other Scouts from other areas and get to socialize.

Scouting is everything I could ever ask for at this moment and its really worth it. Those who don't want to join Scouts are missing out on a lot, Scouts is with out a doubt the place to be"

'Scout Laws are not optional extras they are a code for life for those who understand'

Scout Laws

1. A scouts honour is to be trusted
2. A scout is loyal
3. A scouts duty is to be useful and help others
4. A scout is a friend to all and a brother to every other scout
5. A scout is courteous
6. A scout is a friend to animals
7. A scout obeys orders
8. A scout smiles and whistles under all difficulties
9. A scout is thrifty
10. A scout is clean in thought word and dead
11. A scout is not a fool
12. A scout does not fall in love

Prince Machete - Scouts and its meaning to me!

My life without scouts is like a house without a roof, its like a dam without water. Scouts has given me true meaning.

Before I became a scout my life was just like a river that flowed not knowing where it flowing to but now scouts had made my life change, like a fish that knows that without water it cannot survive. Scouts has really changed

my life, in fact if it wasn't because of scouts, I was not going to be who I am today.

Prince Machete

1st Ramotshinyadi Troop Scouter and member of Nghonyama Rover Crew



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Recently we held PLTC which is a leadership training course for Patrol Leaders, if you were lucky enough to go you have a big responsibility to share all that you have learnt with your troop.

I would just like to add special thanks to 1st Shiluvane who were able to step in assist in sharing their skills.



This training was run by our first two Rover Crews: Nghonyama and Marula Crews working together during and for the first time investing new scouts which means the Scout program is self sustainable with the new generation of adult leaders coming through, WELL DONE to all concerned. Take care and GOOD SCOUTING!

CUBS CORNER

Climate Change and Alien Plants

Why are alien plants an issue?

Plants in their natural environment are kept in check by natural enemies. Often when taken to new environments these natural enemies are missing so the plants can grow wildly.

They can take over and become a problem to the indigenous or native plants of that land. For example the Eucalyptus drinks lots of water, the Port Jackson can destroy houses whilst Lantana is difficult to destroy and can kill wildlife and domestic animals who eat it.



Port Jackson is native to eastern Australia. It likes warm climates and can grow very big. It requires pollination by a particular wasp species to set seed. The aggressive root system of the Port Jackson makes it only suitable for large gardens and parks and can destroy houses or other plants close to it.



Lantana is a plant beautiful in appearance, but ugly in behavior. It has become a serious danger to the natural environment of important native species. Lantana takes over the places in which they grow and uses their often limited water resources. It originates from Southern America and now has covered large areas in India, Australia and Africa. Lantana colonizes new areas when its seeds are distributed by birds. Once it reaches an area, Lantana spreads quickly. It grows back so fast, that efforts to eradicate it have completely failed. It is resistant to fire, and quickly grows in and colonizes



The **Eucalyptus** is native to Australia as well as its subspecies the **Blue gum**. The Eucalyptus was brought to South Africa, because it is a fast-growing source of wood, its oil can be used for cleaning and functions as a natural insecticide and it is sometimes used to drain swamps and thereby reduce the risk of malaria. Outside their natural ranges, eucalypts are both praised for their beneficial economic impact on poor communities and blamed for being invasive water-suckers, leading to controversy over their total impact.

So What can I DO to help the environment? You can plant native bushes and trees to help the country recover from the alien plants and you can make sure your family knows how important it is to only plant indigenous plants.